

The Intelligencer.

Office: Nos. 25 and 27 Fourteenth Street.

We are having some March, after all. But two days ago straw hats were getting ready to peep above the frost line. Now all this is changed.

This administration likes its English underdone—"innocuous despotism," "unilateral," "contractual," "residential," "constitutional." Save us from our friends!

It would serve Mr. Bayard right if the Chinese Minister at Washington were to bring a fatal dose of tea to him. This might not be "constitutional," but it would be severely just.

The bill which General Goff will introduce to-day for the relief of a large number of West Virginia farmers, seeks to do justice—nothing more. If there is a million dollars due to West Virginia farmers, they ought to have it. This great country is able to pay its just debts, and ought to do it. If cases of this class are reopened, it is to be supposed that only just claims will be allowed. This is all that can be asked, and this Congress ought to grant for the asking. Our Washington dispatches clearly state the state of the case, what has been withheld and what is now asked.

For nearly forty years Mr. S. M. Pettigill has conducted newspaper advertising in New York. In all that time the press of the country has had the most pleasant relations with him, based on the integrity of his dealings. Mr. Pettigill now retires from business, and the *Intelligencer*, which has had transactions with him through a great part of his career, takes this opportunity to say that it has always found in him the gentleman and the just man of business, and now parts with him as with an old friend. Mr. Pettigill is succeeded by his former partner, Mr. James H. Bates, who will maintain the standing of the old house. Mr. Bates is experienced in the business and is as favorably known as his predecessor.

The natural gas situation on the other side of the river is full of interest for Wheeling. This city has given an exclusive privilege to a company which places fifteen cents per 1,000 cubic feet as the maximum charge. Another company offers to sell to Baltimore at a maximum charge of ten cents, and asks no exclusive privilege. Already Baltimore is congratulating herself over her better fortune. We do not understand the process by which gas is cheapened by being carried four miles farther, including the crossing of a river. Neither is it plain why our manufacturers cannot make as good terms with the exclusive company as with the new owner.

One phase of the subject, however, is very clear—the industries on this side of the river must have the same chance as those on the other side; the chance is offered to them and no obstacles should be thrown in the way to prevent its acceptance. We can get along without gas for our houses, if need be. We must have it for the industries which are the life of the city; we must have it soon and have it cheap.

Why all this babbly over the suggestion that the Democrats of West Virginia in convention shall nominate a successor to Senator Camden? If Democrats so desire, who is afraid? Certainly no one who is sure of his hold on his party.

Such a convention is not an unheard of thing. In 1858 the Republicans of Illinois, in convention at Springfield, nominated Abraham Lincoln against Stephen A. Douglas. The Legislature to be chosen at the ensuing election was to elect a United States Senator. The two able men locked horns, and their joint public discussions, besides informing the people, became historical. Under some circumstances this is a good way to select a nominee for the Senate.

We do not think the Republicans will adopt this plan at this time—it was a Democrat who won in the Illinois campaign of 1858—but we can safely promise that if our Democratic friends will select their man, he shall have all the joint discussion he may incline to. This will make the campaign entertaining and instructive—a combined minstrel show and popular university on wheels, so to speak. Besides, there would be fun in the convention itself.

Certainly Governor Wilson is in error if he claims that he carried Mr. Cleveland through the campaign in this State. There is good reason to believe that if Mr. Wilson had run in any but a presidential year he would have been flattened out of recognition. It is not worth while to discuss this point.

When Governor Wilson says the President has hurt the Democratic party in West Virginia, he says what everybody knows to be true, for the President is disabling the party the country over, and West Virginia stands in no exceptional case. The President shows that, in so far as he speaks and acts for the Democratic party, he is not true to its pledges—it takes reform, denounces Republican spoliation, and goes in for the spoils. It removes men because they are Republicans and appoints men because they are Democrats—just what it promised not to do. Lacking the courage to do this boldly, it does it under the scandalous cover of "charges" manufactured for the occasion. But, though there has been a departure from the alleged principle and the profane promise, the departure has not been great enough to suit the Democratic masses, who complain with some reason that if the President can remove some Republicans he can remove more. They know that he has broken his promise, and find fault because he has not broken it more.

The Democrats are not to be blamed for feeling ugly over the situation, and it is no secret that there is much of this feeling in West Virginia, though the gentlemen who would use this patronage pump will not tell the President so.

The ferry boat Cooper's party, belonging to the Camden and Atlantic Railroad Company, was partially destroyed by fire at Camden early Saturday morning. The loss is estimated at \$40,000. The origin of the fire is a mystery.

A MILD ROW

Going on after Camden's Successor, A Democratic Convention.

The Authors of that Clever Idea and What it Means.

Governor Wilson's Campaign and His Visit to Washington.

His Pipe Laying to Connect Charleston with Camden's Seat.

Special Correspondence of the Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 20.—Further developments and increased complications in the West Virginia Senatorial situation are taking place in the Democratic household. The most recent move looking to the defeat of Mr. Camden is calculated to make that gentleman somewhat uneasy, if your correspondent is not deceived. News comes from the State to Washington that a combination is being effected, the object of which is to create among the people the impression that there is a strong opposition from every quarter to his re-election, and that this opposition is in the nature of an uprising of the Democracy. With this in view, there is a movement on foot to bring into the field as candidates Senator Herford and Hon. John J. Davis. These gentlemen will be backed by a combination of all the anti-Camden elements. Of course, one of the two men can be elected, but it is thought they will be in a position to name the Senator, and that is where our friend Governor Wilson comes into the ring. It is said that Mr. Herford does not take kindly to the proposition, preferring to be made a co-lawyer, but a powerful pressure is being brought to bear upon him, and he may yet be induced to enter into the scheme, if he can be made to believe that such an arrangement means the defeat of Camden and the practical breaking up of the "ring."

THE MOVING SPIRIT.

The arrangements to effect this combination are being carried on with great secrecy, and much care is being taken to keep it from getting into the newspapers. The "combining" is the friends' delight to call it, it is understood to be the idea of James M. Mason, and is being approved by the Legislature by Governor Wilson. I think, from all I can understand, that Mr. Davis does not fully understand the true situation, and that the friends of the "ring" are under the belief that he is asked to become a candidate in good faith, and that he understands it is really a movement to make him United States Senator. And yet, it is a fact that the friends of the "ring" are endeavoring to get him to become a candidate for United States Senator in the interests of this combination. Its authors have faith that such a convention would be anti-Camden by a large majority.

A LITTLE NOBBLING.

The report published in a Chicago and some Eastern papers that the White Sulphur proposition is a Republican scheme to get up a fight in the Democratic party is, of course, very silly, and is a reflection upon the politics of West Virginia. Such a plan would necessarily miscarry. The history of politics in the State will demonstrate that the Democratic party stands by its nominees, and it is a foregone conclusion that the White Sulphur proposition, whether it be an anti-Camden Senator, or whether it be an anti-Camden man or Camden himself.

There would be no bolt from the convention, no matter how stormy its session. After the White Sulphur convention, and the harmonious campaign which followed for the ticket then nominated, no one needs to hear argument to convince him that the White Sulphur idea would not result in the disruption of the party. No one who knows the truth is that the proposition is made on the part of the anti-Camden combination above mentioned, though many Camden men are not averse to the idea, and are perfectly willing that the convention should select a ticket. No one who knows the truth is that the proposition is made on the part of the anti-Camden combination above mentioned, though many Camden men are not averse to the idea, and are perfectly willing that the convention should select a ticket. No one who knows the truth is that the proposition is made on the part of the anti-Camden combination above mentioned, though many Camden men are not averse to the idea, and are perfectly willing that the convention should select a ticket.

JEFFERSONIAN SIMPLICITY.

I was talking a day or two since with Thomas A. Kirwin, a member of the Jefferson County Democratic Executive Committee. He is one of the most earnest party workers in the Eastern Panhandle and is said to be one of the best posted Democrats in his county. I asked him how he was getting on in the Senatorial question. He replied that the anti-Camden men are largely in the majority, and will undoubtedly elect Union delegates to the Legislature. He says the people of this section are very anxious to see Mr. Camden succeed Mr. Camden. I asked him why.

"Because," he replied, "first, he is a native of the county. His boyhood was spent there, and we all know him to be a straightforward, honest man. He is not in the habit of anything dishonest or insincere. The people there like him for his course toward the railroads."

While in this city last week, however, Governor Wilson's characteristic frankness, for which my friend Mr. Kirwin seems to admire him, led him to make some very indiscreet remarks, which have brought upon his head the wrath of the Camden Democracy. When he arrived here last week, Inspector Bryant, under advice of the District Attorney, declined to testify as to the recent talks with Alderman Jaehne, as it would interfere with public justice. The investigation will be continued on Friday.

Jaehne Jailed.

New York, March 21.—Joseph O'Donnell, who was bondman for Alderman Jaehne, this evening withdrew his bond and surrendered the Alderman for custody. O'Donnell had his suspicions aroused that Jaehne was about to take a trip to Canada. Jaehne is locked up at police headquarters to-night.

A Fatal Week.

Pittsburgh, March 21.—A freight train on the Pittsburgh and Lake Erie Railroad ran into a landslide near Stoop's Ferry, Pa., about 11 o'clock last night, precipitating the entire train of twenty cars over an embankment, and instantly killing conductor William Glymer, of Jersey City, and fireman Frederick Kitchner, of Pittsburgh. The engine was wrecked and nine cars were reduced to kindling wood.

Miss Lucy Cole, teacher of the Pleasant View School in Lewis county, and her scholars, had made great preparations for a school entertainment, and were preparing for the purchase of materials for motion, wreaths, etc., for decorating the room. They had things very nicely arranged, but at night some miscreants broke in and destroyed all their work.

THE GOVERNOR ON THE PRESIDENT.

He gave it as his solemn opinion that Cleveland had well broken up the Democratic party of his State by his manner of making federal appointments out there. He stated that the effect of these

GEN. GOFF'S BILL

TO REMEDY AN INJUSTICE Done Many Good Citizens of West Virginia in the Rejection of Just Claims. How Inexplicable Agents Balked the Intent of the First Law.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—General Goff will introduce to-morrow in the House of Representatives a bill which is designed to afford relief to and benefit greatly thousands of people, principally farmers, in West Virginia and neighboring States. There are, perhaps, covered by this bill in West Virginia alone six or eight thousand just and honest war claims, which, if paid, will place in the hands of these an aggregate sum of several hundred thousand dollars.

A brief history of the circumstances which have conspired to make General Goff's proposed law necessary, may prove interesting to many readers of the *Intelligencer*, who are interested, or who may be directly benefited by its passage.

HISTORY OF THE CASE.

In 1864 Congress passed an act recognizing the fact that a great deal of property for the purpose of subsiding the army had been taken from the farmers of the State along the border during the war, for which no compensation had been made, and gave to all such parties an opportunity to present their claims to the Quartermaster General and Commissary General for payment, if found to be just. The act was crude, and left the mode of adjustment to the discretion of the officers. They were not lawyers, but mere military men, and by reason of their education and training, as might be expected from them, they adopted an arbitrary set of rules, by which these cases were to be settled. From 1864 to 1880, when a man filed his claim before the Quartermaster and Commissary Generals, no claim was placed in the hands of an agent of the department for investigation and report. That agent would usually visit the locality where the claim occurred and make an *ex parte* inquiry into the justice of it, sometimes without even permitting the claimant to know that such investigation was going on.

KNOWLEDGE OF THE CLAIMS.

Statements were accepted and used against the claimant without allowing the parties who made them. Reports of all sorts of irresponsible parties, however, timely in their character, were accepted as legal evidence for the purpose of destroying the claim. In fact, it is a matter of common notoriety that many of these agents were totally irresponsible and had no object in view when they investigated the claim—namely, that of taking care that the claimant would be paid, however just and honest his claim. The whole system was that of a star chamber proceeding. These agents would make a report to the departments, and in a few minutes the claim would be thrown upon a shelf, without taking the trouble to get the facts. The report, when made to the department, could never be seen by the claimant or his attorneys. He was not allowed to refute any charges that might have been trumped up against him, nor even allowed to combat them. In fact, from the time the claim was filed until the claimant received a stereotyped letter notifying him of the rejection of his claim the whole proceedings were enshrouded in darkness.

ROAD TO JUSTICE.

It must be seen at a glance that such a mode of procedure to enforce a remedy to a right which the United States had recognized, was not only shocking to every sense of right and justice, but was a recognized institution of our country. If these people had any rights in the premises, and Congress said they had, then there should have been adopted a system of open, honest mode of procedure for the settlement of these claims, in which whatever may have been done in the direction of a seeming adjudication of these claims from 1864 to 1880 was so palpably unjust as to demand at the hands of a fair and intelligent Congress further and additional relief in the settlement of these matters.

WHAT CONGRESS DID LATER.

As an evidence of the correctness of this proposition, in 1879 Congress passed an act giving to this very class of claimants the right to be fully and fairly heard, according to the rules of the common law. Under the act of 1879, these claims are adjudicated precisely as disputed cases of fact and law are adjudicated before our courts of law, and the same rules of evidence and procedure are followed. The whole case, with the evidence pro and con, is submitted with a report of the agent to the department, and is open to the inspection of the claimant and his attorneys. The department takes no action, after the first report, until the claimant has been heard, and the proceedings are so conducted that the claimant is kept informed of the progress of the case.

WHERE THE LAW IS LAKE.

But, unfortunately, this act of 1879 was of no benefit to the claimant, whose claim had been passed upon under the act of 1864.

Gen. Goff holds that if it was fair and proper for Congress in 1879 to recognize by law the right of these claimants to have a fair and legal mode of procedure, then it is equally so to re-examine the claims from 1864 to 1879, and to have the same fairness accorded to them. It is with this idea in mind that Gen. Goff will introduce the following bill to-morrow:

GOFF'S BILL.

"A bill to authorize the re-examination of certain claims against the United States: 'Be it enacted,' etc.,

"Section 1. That the Quartermaster General and the Commissary General of the United States Army be, and they are hereby authorized and directed, upon the application of any person or persons interested therein, to re-open and re-examine the claim of any loyal citizen of the United States for quarter-master stores and subsistence supplies taken for the use of the United States Army during the late rebellion, which said claims have been filed heretofore and disallowed by said officers under the 4th day of July, 1864, and the 1st day of January, 1865, provided, however, that the application for said re-examination be made within two years after the passage of this act."

"Section 2. That for all purposes connected with the execution of this act, the acts approved July 4, 1864, and the acts amendatory thereof shall be applicable and in full force and effect."

"Section 3. That in all claims proceeding under this act by an administrator, executor, committee or guardian, for stores or supplies held by them in their said capacity, the said administrator, executor, committee or guardian shall be required to file in such cases a bill of lading or other evidence of title to the property claimed, and in other cases shall be considered *prima facie* evidence of title to the property claimed."

"Section 4. That the claimant shall show by his own testimony and the testimony of the United States witnesses that he did not aid or abet the said war of rebellion against the United States."

Marie Helbron, the prima donna, is reported to be dying in London.

HOW IT NOW STANDS.

THREE CONFERENCES HELD Between the Two Governors and Vice President Hoxie in Regard to the Railroad Strike—What the Missouri Pacific Will and Will Not do.

St. Louis, Mo., March 21.—Governor Marmaduke and Martin held their third conference with Vice President Hoxie this afternoon, at which the proposition submitted yesterday by the Governor was again discussed and a formal reply on the part of the railway officials was made. The following correspondence includes the two documents mentioned and is both the substance and the sum of the proceedings of the three conferences:

St. Louis, March 20, 1886. H. M. Hoxie Esq., Vice-President Missouri Pacific Railway Company:

DEAR SIR:—On the 19th instant the undersigned, as Kansas City to discuss the very serious condition of affairs in the States of Kansas and Missouri, growing out of the late strike on the lines of the Missouri Pacific Railway, and the resulting obstruction of the commerce of the two States.

While at Kansas City we were visited by a delegation of your late employees, and after discussing with them the various phases of the strike we consented to visit your office and to discuss the terms of the agreement made with the management of your road on the 15th of March, 1885, and if deemed advisable recommended such modification of said agreement as might be thought just to all concerned. On the 16th of March, 1885, the undersigned, on behalf of the Missouri Pacific Railway, presented to Capt. Hayes the first Vice President of the Missouri Pacific Railway company the following suggestion:

MEASURES OF COMPROMISE.

To Capt. R. S. Hayes, First Vice President and Chief Executive Officer of the Missouri Pacific Railway Company and associated roads:

WHEREAS, On account of the strike among certain employees of the Missouri Pacific Railway Company in the States of Missouri and Kansas resulting in the stoppage and cessation of all freight traffic over said roads, and the consequent great detriment to the business interests and rights of the people of said States, and the continuation of which endangers the public peace and the safety of the Company's property; and

WHEREAS, The undersigned, representing the two States, and anxious to restore to the Missouri Pacific Railway Company and its employees and to restore to the public the obstructed use of said lines of railroad, and to secure the resumption of the Missouri Pacific Railway Company's business, and to restore to the striking employees in Missouri and Kansas the same wages paid to them in September, 1884, including one and one-half percent for extra time worked, and to restore all striking employees to their former employment without prejudice to them on account of said strike.

Believing that the foregoing will constitute a just and fair settlement, we respectfully request your acceptance by the striking employees, as well as by the Missouri Pacific Company.

(Signed.) JOHN A. MARTIN, Governor of Kansas. JOHN S. MARMADUKE, Governor of Missouri. A. M. HOSIE, Vice-President.

St. Louis, March 15, 1886. CAPT. HAYES' REPLY.

Captain Hayes on the same date issued a circular embodying the suggestion thus made and giving notice that the rate of wages and terms above specified would go into effect on Monday, March 15th, 1886, and be in effect from that date, and further that said rates would not thereafter be changed except after thirty days notice thereof given in the manner specified in the circular.

First.—That the company restore to the striking employees in Missouri and Kansas the same wages paid to them in September, 1884, including one and one-half percent for extra time worked.

Second.—To restore all striking employees to their several employment without prejudice to them on account of said strike.

To these conditions Capt. Hayes added a third, viz.: That thereafter said rates would not be changed except after thirty days' notice thereof. After careful investigation we are unable to find wherein the same would be to the disadvantage of the Missouri Pacific Railway Company, and we are therefore of the opinion that the Missouri Pacific Railway Company has violated the terms and conditions of the agreement made on the 15th of March, 1885, touching its employees in our respective States. No complaint has been made to the Governor of Missouri based on an alleged violation of said agreement, and but one has ever been made to the Governor of Kansas, and that, on investigation, proved to be without foundation and was withdrawn.

It is therefore the opinion of the undersigned that the Missouri Pacific Railway Company has violated the terms and conditions of the agreement made on the 15th of March, 1885, touching its employees in our respective States. No complaint has been made to the Governor of Missouri based on an alleged violation of said agreement, and but one has ever been made to the Governor of Kansas, and that, on investigation, proved to be without foundation and was withdrawn.

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A DESPERADO'S DEED.

HE SHOOT HIS FORMER EMPLOYER And Flees Pursued by a posse—He Turns on his Pursuers and Kills Two More Men. Seeks Refuge in a Barn and Holds the Posse at Bay.

CHICAGO, March 21.—The *Daily News* Omaha, Neb., special says: H. O. Steadman is a prominent farmer of Bart county, proprietor of two creameries near the village of Lyons. Yesterday forenoon he discharged Edward Johnson, alias John Anderson, a young man and a comparative stranger in the vicinity. Johnson thereupon picked a quarrel with Steadman, and without giving warning whipped out a revolver and shot Steadman in the bowels, causing death in a short time. There was no provocation. Johnson fled, and was pursued by a posse of men. The posse followed him to a barn, where he was shot and killed. The posse then searched the barn and found the body of Steadman. The posse then searched the barn and found the body of Steadman.

A BURNING FIGHT.

They kept gaining on him and twenty miles south near the farm of Charles F. Johnson a regular battle ensued. The murderer turned and fired several shots in rapid succession, shooting Porter, brother of Charles, in the head, killing him instantly. He next shot Charles F. Johnson fatally in the abdomen. The next shot killed Constable Parker's horse. This was followed by a close fight, during which some of the horses and graining horses of the men. In the meantime the pursuers, whose numbers had largely increased, kept firing their revolvers, but the desperado was out of their shot. The desperado was out of their shot. The desperado was out of their shot.

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